

CHRISTOPHER C. ANDREWS.

FEBRUARY 26, 1889.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MACDONALD, from the Committee on Public Lands, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 12029.]

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 12029) for the relief of Christopher C. Andrews, submit the following report:

This bill is to allow a patent to issue to said Andrews for the 160 acres of land described in the bill; for the reason that the requirement of the law as to five years' residence has all been complied with except one year, and the evidence is that in consequence of the land being subject to overflow it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to reside continuously on the land for the year required.

The beneficiary has shown his good faith by making improvements on said land, principally in buildings, to the extent and value of over \$1,000. He made homestead entry and settlement upon the land as a homestead, intending it for a stock farm, it being too low and wet for the purposes of tillage. Having served in the military service of the United States, he was enabled to leave it for a time to accept an official position, but for the reasons stated it would be a great hardship to require him to reside upon it continuously for another year, as within that time it will undoubtedly be overflowed, and as the land is much more suitable for grazing and raising hay than for residence thereon.

There is no other applicant contesting for the land, and your committee believe that he should have the land, but upon the payment of the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and we recommend that the bill be amended by striking out the words "final commissions" in line 9, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre," and that as so amended the bill do pass.

